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Pocket Guide to Federal Requirements on Identifying Cattle for Interstate Shipment

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GUIDE TO FEDERAL REGULATIONS FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF CATTLE MOVING INTERSTATE

This guide provides a handy outline of identification and documents required to ship cattle interstate—across state lines. It does not cover Federal or State quarantine situations or the restrictions on shipping diseased animals or animals exposed to disease. If you have questions, get in touch with the State animal health or Veterinary Services representative in your area (see list).

CLASS OF CATTLE	MOVEMENT INTERSTATE		REQUIREMENT	
	FROM	TO	IDENTIFICATION	DOCUMENT
Steers, Spayed Heifers and Cattle Under 2 yrs of age.	Any Point	Any destination	None ¹	None ¹
Slaughter Cattle 2 yrs of age and over (except steers and spayed heifers)	Any Point	Any destination	USDA-Approved Backtag	Owner or Shipper Statement or Other Document.
	Farm, Ranch or Feedlot	Federally Inspected or Posted Stockyard, Specifically Approved Slaughtering Establishment. ²	USDA-Approved Backtag <i>Upon Arrival</i> (Backtag not required for cattle moving to a slaughtering establishment that maintains records of ownership of lots received.)	Owner or Shipper Statement or Other Document (Individual animal identification not required to be recorded on Statement or Other Document.)
	Posted Stockyard	Federally Inspected or Specifically, Approved Slaughtering Establishment.	USDA-Approved Backtag <i>Prior to Movement</i>	Owner or Shipper Statement or Other Document. (Individual animal identification not required to be recorded on Statement or Other Document.)
NON-Slaughter Cattle 2 yrs of age and over	Any Point	Any destination	USDA-Approved Eartag (In lieu of Backtag) or Official Brand or Purebred Registration Identification	Owner Statement or Other Document ¹

¹ CONSULT APPROPRIATE STATE OFFICIALS FOR STATE OF DESTINATION REQUIREMENTS.

² Information on Posted Stockyards, Federally Inspected and Specifically Approved Slaughtering Establishment Available through the Veterinary Services Representative in your Area.

CAUTION: THE REGULATIONS PROHIBIT THE REMOVAL OF OR TAMPERING WITH BACKTAGS OR EARTAGS.

DEFINITIONS

Interstate—From one state into or through any other state.

Posted Stockyards—So designated by Packers and Stockyards Administration by posting notice of such stockyards and by publication in the Federal Register.

Owner or Shippers' Statement or Other Document—

1. Other document means a shipping permit, an official health certificate, a bill of lading, a waybill, or an invoice on which is listed the required information.
2. Information required on statement or other document:
 - a. Point from which the animals are moved interstate.
 - b. Destination of animals.
 - c. Number of animals covered by the statement or other document.
 - d. Name and address of the owner or shipper.
 - e. Identifying numbers of the backtags or other approved identification applied.

Veterinary Services
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Federal Bldg.
Hyattsville, Maryland 20782
April 1974

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CALL . . .

Alabama	(601) 948-2512
Arkansas	(405) 231-4335
Arizona	(916) 449-3216
California	(916) 449-3216
Colorado	(303) 837-3481
Connecticut	(617) 894-2400 ext. 760
Delaware	(301) 344-4190
Florida	(305) 592-3210
Georgia	(803) 765-5612
Hawaii	(916) 449-3216
Idaho	(503) 585-1366
Illinois	(317) 633-8491
Indiana	(317) 633-8491
Iowa	(515) 284-4140
Kansas	(402) 475-3544
Kentucky	(615) 749-5594
Louisiana	(405) 231-4335
Maine	(617) 894-2400 ext. 760
Maryland	(301) 344-4190
Massachusetts	(617) 894-2400 ext. 760
Michigan	(614) 469-5602
Minnesota	(612) 725-7691
Mississippi	(610) 948-7821 ext. 511
Missouri	(515) 284-4140
Montana	(701) 255-4211
Nebraska	(402) 475-3544
Nevada	(916) 449-3216
New Hampshire	(617) 894-2400 ext. 760
New Jersey	(518) 472-4477
New Mexico	(512) 397-5557
New York	(518) 472-4477
North Carolina	(803) 765-5612
North Dakota	(701) 255-4211
Ohio	(614) 469-5602
Oklahoma	(405) 231-4335
Oregon	(503) 585-1366
Pennsylvania	(518) 472-4477
Puerto Rico	(305) 592-3210
Rhode Island	(617) 894-2400 ext. 760
South Carolina	(803) 765-5612
South Dakota	(701) 255-4211
Tennessee	(615) 749-5594
Texas	(512) 397-5551
Vermont	(617) 894-2400 ext. 760
Virginia	(301) 344-4190
Virgin Islands	(305) 592-3210
Washington	(503) 585-1366
Wisconsin	(612) 725-7691
West Virginia	(612) 725-7691
Wyoming	(303) 837-3481

